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Nov. 1919 - May 1920 (051)

Columbia University
in the City of New York

COLUMBIA HOUSE

419 WEST 117TH STREET

November 29th 1919

Sir Robert Falconer, President
Toronto University
Toronto, Ontario

My dear Sir Robert:

I was deeply disappointed when I heard that you had taken the trouble to call at Barnard College to see me some days ago, and I had missed you; and I confess that my disappointment was not unmixed with chagrin, by reason of the fact that on that particular afternoon I really was in my office at Barnard, although my usual schedule takes me to Columbia House in the afternoon.

The tragically sudden death of Professor Calvin Thomas has, of course, crowded me very heavily with extra work for the rest of this semester. Otherwise, I should have made it a point to be at one or the other of the interesting events which brought you down to New York. As a matter of fact my work for Columbia House and its Americanization program really ought to have my full time, and sometimes the load seems so impossible and the result so small and slow that, in spite of the dazzling lure of this big city, I long for the opportunity of making an honest living out of one job without having to cut myself up into five or six -- helpings, I was going to say.

Thanksgiving Day passed very pleasantly and it was really something to be thankful for when a poor professor and his family were still able to obtain a mandate over turkey.

Speaking of politics, what a mess our Senate or rather our crazy Republican senators have made of the Peace Treaty! I have given up attempting to forecast what will be the ultimate outcome, but there are signs, I think, of a reaction within the Republican ranks.

Is anything being done in Canadian universities or in any other organized way, for the education of the foreigner for better citizenship? I assume that your foreign element is so much more widely diffused, that the need for such work is not nearly so urgent as it is with us over here.

With kind regards and good wishes, believe me

Very sincerely yours,

W. A. Braun

B-K.

Columbia University
in the City of New York
COLUMBIA HOUSE
419 WEST 117TH STREET

May 14, 1920.

Sir Robert Falconer, President,
Toronto University,
Toronto, Canada.

My dear Sir Robert,

I was very happy to receive the notice of the special events in connection with this year's commencement exercises at my Alma Mater and am glad to note that I shall be able to be present. It will be a rare pleasure to greet some of my old classmates, whom I have not seen since Varsity days, at our '95 quarter century reunion.

I thought you might be interested to know in this connection that Professor James T. Shotwell happens to be back from Europe for a short stay and would, I fancy, be glad to come down from Strathroy if asked to do so, particularly for the special convocation on Thursday, June 3rd. Sir Arthur Currie and he are old school chums; General Currie took Professor Shotwell all over the battlefields in France, and they saw much of each other while Professor Shotwell headed the History Division of the American delegation to the Peace Conference. Now and for the next three or four years Professor Shotwell will be busy as editor-in-chief of one of the monumental histories of the war on a commission from the Carnegie Endowment.

He will be at Strathroy after next Monday or Tuesday.

I am of course looking forward to the pleasure of greeting you again during the course of these interesting events.

With kind regards believe me

Very sincerely yours,

W.A. Braun

Prof J.T. Shotwell -

May 19th, 1920

Professor W. A. Braun,
419 West 117th Street,
New York City.

My dear Professor Braun:

I am very glad to know that you are coming back for the Commencement exercises. I have written to Professor Snodwell inviting him to be present, and saying that we will be glad to put a room at his disposal. Of course the same offer stands for yourself. With kind regards, and anticipations of seeing you,

I am,

Yours sincerely,

President.